

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Gurtej S. Sandhu and Sujit Sharan

Serial No.: 09/439,314

Filed: November 12, 1999

For: DEVICE FOR IN-SITU CLEANING OF AN
INDUCTIVELY-COUPLED PLASMA CHAMBER (as
amended)

§
§ Group Art Unit: 1763
§
§ Examiner: Parviz Hassanzadeh
§
§
§ Atty. Docket: 95-0392.02
§
§
§

RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY DATED NOVEMBER 12, 2003

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

12/17/03
Date


Signature

Dear Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Notice of Allowability dated November 12, 2003. First, Applicants note an error in the title as it appears in the Notice of Allowance. The final word in the title as printed in the Notice of Allowance is "CHAMBERS" when it should be --CHAMBER--. (See First Amendment transmitted 2/28/01.)

Second, Applicants note that the Examiner's reasons for allowance do not exactly track the claim language. Applicants contend that the claims are allowable based on the limitations expressed therein. For example, prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious claim 41's plasma processing system comprising a first chamber configured to generate a first plasma therein; and a second chamber coupled to the first chamber, wherein the second chamber is configured to initially generate a second plasma therein, further configured to lose an ability to generate that second plasma, and configured to receive the first plasma, wherein the first plasma is configured to restore that ability. Dependent claims 42-44 are allowable based on the limitations they

express as well as incorporate by reference. Similarly, Applicants contend that prior art fails to anticipate or render obvious claims 45-69 given their expressed/incorporated limitations.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge such reasons for allowability.

Third, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on November 12, 1999, with the original application documents (including the IDS references) but cannot locate a copy of the 1449 form initialed by the Examiner. Applicants request that the Examiner send an initialed copy of that 1449 form to Applicants. Copies of the previously submitted IDS and 1449 forms are attached to this Response.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

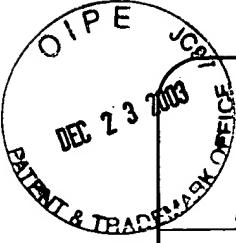
Respectfully submitted,



Date: 12/17/13

Charles B. Brantley II
Reg. No. 38,086
Micron Technology, Inc.
8000 S. Federal Way
Boise, ID 83716-9632
(208) 368-4557
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.



FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 0)

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/439,314
Filing Date	November 12, 1999
First Named Inventor	Sandhu et al.
Examiner Name	Parviz Hassanzadeh
Art Unit	1763
Attorney Docket No.	95-0392.02

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)				FEE CALCULATION (continued)																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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ADDITIONAL FEES <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity</th> <th>Small Entity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fee Code</td> <td>Fee (\$)</td> <td>Fee Code</td> <td>Fee (\$)</td> <td>Fee Description</td> <td>Fee Paid</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1051</td> <td>130</td> <td>2051</td> <td>65</td> <td>Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1052</td> <td>50</td> <td>2052</td> <td>25</td> <td>Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>Non-English specification</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>For filing a request for reexamination</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1251</td> <td>110</td> <td>2251</td> <td>55</td> <td>Extension for reply within first month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1252</td> <td>420</td> <td>2252</td> <td>210</td> <td>Extension for reply within second month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1253</td> <td>950</td> <td>2253</td> <td>475</td> <td>Extension for reply within third month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1254</td> <td>1,480</td> <td>2254</td> <td>740</td> <td>Extension for reply within fourth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1255</td> <td>2,010</td> <td>2255</td> <td>1,005</td> <td>Extension for reply within fifth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1401</td> <td>330</td> <td>2401</td> <td>165</td> <td>Notice of Appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1402</td> <td>330</td> <td>2402</td> <td>165</td> <td>Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1403</td> <td>290</td> <td>2403</td> <td>145</td> <td>Request for oral hearing</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1451</td> <td>1,510</td> <td>1451</td> <td>1,510</td> <td>Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1452</td> <td>110</td> <td>2452</td> <td>55</td> <td>Petition to revive - unavoidable</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1453</td> <td>1,330</td> <td>2453</td> <td>665</td> <td>Petition to revive - unintentional</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1501</td> <td>1,330</td> <td>2501</td> <td>665</td> <td>Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1502</td> <td>480</td> <td>2502</td> <td>240</td> <td>Design issue fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1503</td> <td>640</td> <td>2503</td> <td>320</td> <td>Plant issue fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1460</td> <td>130</td> <td>1460</td> <td>130</td> <td>Petitions to the Commissioner</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1807</td> <td>50</td> <td>1807</td> <td>50</td> <td>Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1806</td> <td>180</td> <td>1806</td> <td>180</td> <td>Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>8021</td> <td>40</td> <td>8021</td> <td>40</td> <td>Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1809</td> <td>770</td> <td>2809</td> <td>385</td> <td>Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1810</td> <td>770</td> <td>2810</td> <td>385</td> <td>For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1801</td> <td>770</td> <td>2801</td> <td>385</td> <td>Request for Continued Examination (RCE)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1802</td> <td>900</td> <td>1802</td> <td>900</td> <td>Request for expedited examination of a design application</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">Other fee (specify) _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid</td> <td colspan="2">SUBTOTAL (3)</td> <td>(\$ 0)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6">*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid	1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath		1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet		1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification		1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination		1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action		1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action		1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month		1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month		1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month		1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month		1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month		1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal		1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal		1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing		1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding		1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable		1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional		1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)		1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee		1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee		1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner		1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)		1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt		8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)		1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))		1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))		1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)		1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application		Other fee (specify) _____						*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid				SUBTOTAL (3)		(\$ 0)	SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0)							*or number previously paid, if greater; 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Name (Print/Type)	Charles Brantley	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,086	Telephone	208-368-4557																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Signature	Charles Brantley			Date	12/17/03																																																																																																																																																																																																													

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:

Filed: November 12, 1999

For: METHOD FOR IN-SITU CLEANING OF
INDUCTIVELY-COUPLED PLASMA CHAMBERS

§ Group Art Unit:
§ Examiner:
§ Atty. Docket: 95-0392.02

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EL003001756US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 11-12-99

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE SERVICE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Mark L. Lerner, Director
Signature

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and that the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed references are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possible material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

The following references are submitted for the Examiner's review:

U.S. Patents

U.S. Patent No. Issue Date Inventor

5,824,607	10/20/98	Trow et al.
5,817,534	10/06/98	Ye et al.
5,812,403	09/22/98	Fong et al.

5,792,272	08/11/98	van Os et al.
5,788,799	08/04/98	Steger et al.
5,788,778	08/04/98	Shang et al.
5,614,055	03/25/97	Fairbairn et al.
5,514,246	05/07/96	Blalock
5,409,563	04/25/95	Cathey
5,393,709	02/28/95	Lur et al.
5,389,496	02/14/95	Calvert et al.
5,389,195	02/14/95	Onderkirk et al.
5,384,289	01/24/95	Westmoreland
5,368,687	11/29/94	Sandhu et al.
5,252,518	10/12/93	Sandhu et al.
5,240,739	08/31/93	Doan et al.
4,878,994	11/07/89	Jucha et al.
4,820,377	04/11/89	Davis et al.
4,795,880	01/03/89	Hayes et al.

Other References:

"Advanced Plasma Sources: What's Working?," *Semiconductor International*, pp. 56-58, 60, May 1994.

Applicants understand that no fee or certification is required for the submission and consideration of this information at this time.

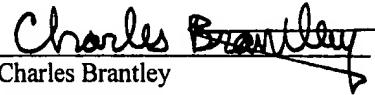
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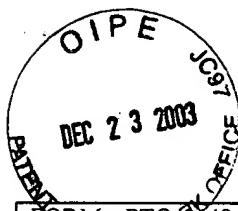
* * * *

A Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/12/99


 Charles Brantley
 Reg. No. 38,086
 Micron Technology, Inc.
 8000 S. Federal Way
 Boise, ID 83716-9632
 (208) 368-4557
 ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS



FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty Docket No:
95-0392.02

Serial No:

Applicant:
Sandhu, et al.

Filing Date:
November 12, 1999

Group:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(37 CFR 1.98(b))

(use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass
AA	5,824,607	10/20/98	Trow et al.	438	732
AB	5,817,534	10/06/98	Ye et al.	438	10
AC	5,812,403	09/22/98	Fong et al.	364	468.28
AD	5,792,272	08/11/98	van Os et al.	118	723 IR
AE	5,788,799	08/04/98	Steger et al.	156	345
AF	5,788,778	08/04/98	Shang et al.	134	001
AG	5,614,055	03/25/97	Fairbairn et al.	156	345
AH	5,514,246	05/07/96	Blalock	156	643.1
AI	5,409,563	04/25/95	Cathey	156	643
AJ	5,393,709	02/28/95	Lur et al.	437	228
AK	5,389,496	02/14/95	Calvert et al.	430	315
AL	5,389,195	02/14/95	Onderkirk et al.	156	643
AM	5,384,289	01/24/95	Westmoreland	437	245
AN	5,368,687	11/29/94	Sandhu et al.	156	664
AO	5,252,518	10/12/93	Sandhu et al.	437	200
AP	5,240,739	08/31/93	Doan et al.	427	126.1
AQ	4,878,994	11/07/89	Jucha et al.	156	643
AR	4,820,377	04/11/89	Davis et al.	156	643
AS	4,795,880	01/03/89	Hayes et al.	219	121.52

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes	Translation No
AT						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AU						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Initial

OTHER ART (including author, title, date, pertinent pages, etc.)

"Advanced Plasma Sources: What's Working?," *Semiconductor International*, pp. 56-58, 60, May 1984

AV							
AW							
AX							

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.